

We all agree that this should have been done earlier. At least all of us in this body agree that it should have been done earlier. Frankly, I presume that everybody in the other body agrees that it should have been done earlier.

The problem has been, as you well know, the failure to get agreement and to get 60 votes in the Senate to allow almost any alternative to go forward. Obviously, we passed a bill that had pay-fors in it, which is what you're talking about, some of which were unacceptable to many on your side and to some on our side.

Whatever we offer is going to be paid for. Mr. DINGELL and Mr. RANGEL, in particular, and his committee are working on that as we speak to see what they can fashion, and we hope that the two-thirds majority necessary to pass a suspension bill will be there—we'll see—but we'll be working on this next week.

Mr. BLUNT. My belief is that is largely not going to be dependent on the issue that solves the problem for physicians but on how that problem is solved. Of course, if two-thirds of the Members are not prepared to do it that way, that will not have gained any time. It will actually have lost time. We'll continue to talk, if you want to, on that.

I notice there is also a bill on energy that is potentially to be considered, and I wonder if that bill would be considered under a rule, and I would hope that it would be.

I'd yield.

Mr. HOYER. The answer to your question is we do intend to consider that bill under a rule.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that.

As for the ADA update on the Americans with Disabilities Act Restoration, I, personally, anticipate I'll be working with you to pass that, and I look forward to seeing that on the House floor.

I'd yield.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for mentioning that.

As you know, I was the sponsor and principal manager of the Americans with Disabilities Act when it passed. Some of your Members don't remember him, but he was a great Member of this body: Steve Bartlett, from Texas, who ended up being the Mayor of Dallas and who is a good friend of mine, has been working very hard on this as we attempt to restore it to what we thought it was when we passed it.

The good news is we have worked very hard, and the disability community has worked very hard with the business community, and we have agreement now with employers and with the disability community on a bill that makes sense for both.

I appreciate the distinguished Republican whip for cosponsoring this legislation, and I look forward to working with him to ensure the passage of this bill on Wednesday next.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank the gentleman for that.

Energy will continue to be an important focus of our discussion of what we think should be on the floor. We look forward to seeing an energy bill on the floor with a rule, and I would encourage the majority to bring every energy bill that we're trying to discharge right now to the floor as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

GAS PRICES: AN ENERGY AND ECONOMIC CRISIS

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Well, Mr. Speaker, another week has gone by, and the American people are paying over \$4 a gallon for gasoline, and it's going up because we're getting into vacation time. And we're going home. We're leaving this body. This Congress, our majority party, hasn't done one thing or hasn't even made an attempt to lower the gas prices in this country.

We have the oil here in America. We have it off the Outer Continental Shelf and in Alaska at the ANWR. We have coal shale. We can develop it. We can get oil to the market within 2 or 3 years if we could lower the price of oil immediately once we address the issue because competition around the world will see we're going to drill for oil, and they will start lowering the price, and gas prices will come down, but we have to act.

Here we go with one more week. We're going home with nothing having been done, and the people of this country continue to pay these exorbitant prices for gasoline at the pump.

So, if I were talking to the American people, I would just say to them today: Contact your Congressman, contact your Senator, and tell them you want something done quickly because this is not only an energy crisis; it's an economic crisis.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings or other audible conversation is in violation of the rules of the House.

COMMUTER ACT OF 2008

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. As gas prices rise, an effective way to offer relief is to provide incentives for commuter rail. Commuter rail saves America 4 million gallons of gas a day and saves each individual commuter over \$1,600 a year.

Next week, the Speaker will bring up legislation that will offer only Federal employees transit benefits. I support expanding the current Federal transit program, and believe that all Americans should have the opportunity to have this relief at the pumps.

A month ago, I introduced bipartisan legislation, the Creating Opportunities to Motivate Mass-transit Utilization To Encourage Ridership, or the COMMUTER Act of 2008.

Our legislation offers employers a 50 percent tax credit if they provide transit benefits to their employees. According to Forbes Magazine, the average gasoline cost in the 10 worst commuter cities is over \$6 a day. Should businesses take advantage of this, we would lower our gas bills, but it should be offered to more than people with a Federal job.

THE NEED FOR AMERICAN-MADE ENERGY

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I got a letter from a constituent from Centralia, Illinois. He calls it Operation Drill Bit. He says, "Here's the problem. I'm tired of high gas prices. I'm tired of watching you borrow money from the Chinese to buy oil from the Saudis. Here's the solution. It's time to drill for our own supply of oil no matter where it may lie. It is time to mine our own resources no matter where they may lie." He attaches a drill bit to the letter.

So I'm signing Lynn Westmoreland's pledge. I will join in the petition that I will continue to vote for more supply. The solution is more supply from the Outer Continental Shelf, coal-to-liquid technology, wind and solar, and renewable fuels. We need American-made energy. We need all of the above so that we can lower gas prices for the whole country at the pump. The poor, rural Americans are disproportionately harmed by high gas prices.